

GROVE WATCH

NEWSLETTER OF THE FOREST GROVE POLICE DEPT

SUMMER 2016

POINTS OF INTEREST

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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT *

SUMMER DRIVING SAFETY

RESERVE PROGRAM

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VALUES: SERVICE

HERE TO SERVE:

2012 Pacific Ave Forest Grove, OR 97116

Business Phone: 503-992-3260

Non-emergency Dispatch: 503-629-0111

National Night Out Scheduled for August 2

Each first Tuesday in August, cities around the country participate in a National Night Out, a celebration of community safety, an opportunity to get to know neighbors and meet members of local law enforcement in a fun and casual atmosphere.

National Night Out is part of the National Association of the Town Watch, the same organization that sponsors the Neighborhood Watch program.

The event varies in its format from city to city. Forest Grove offers a city-wide block party at Pacific University, but invites neighborhoods around Forest Grove to host their own block parties during the summer as well.

The event is sponsored by the Forest Grove Police Department and Public Safety Advisory Commission.



Join us for National Night Out on Tuesday. August 2 from 4-8 p.m. at Pacific University, featuring:

- **★** Live music from the Coin Club
- **★** Games & Prizes
- **★** Free Bike raffle
- **★** Free Backpack Giveaway
- ***** Concessions
- **★ Safety Exhibits & Give Aways**
- **★** Emergency & Utility Vehicle Displays
- **★** Climbing Wall
- ★ Illusionist & Balloon Animals
- **★** Children's Activities
- ★ Face Painting, Duck Pond, & Sandbox
- ★ Ice cream with a Cop
- * Free Admission!

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Summer Driving Safety Tips

Whether it's a combine, a herd of cyclists, road construction, or an RV from California, we've all experienced frustration when stuck between slow moving traffic and the double yellow line. But whether you're a commuter or a road warrior, the reality is that all vehicles must share the road and obey all traffic laws:



FARM EQUIPMENT: Summer and Autumn are busy times for regional farmers who rely on local roads for transporting equipment. Slow moving vehicles are required to use turnouts whenever possible, and motorists may pass a slow moving vehicle when the roadway is clear of oncoming traffic far enough ahead to safely pass. A motorist may pass a slow moving vehicle in a no passing zone, but must always yield the right of way to oncoming traffic. When passing, take extra precaution as equipment may be wider than first perceived and require ample space.

CONSTRUCTION ZONES: Dryer weather makes for better road works condition, both on rural and city roads. Remember that many traffic violation fines will double in construction zones. Also take special care to give space to flaggers and machinery, and follow all posted signs.





BICYCLISTS: Forest Grove and the surrounding communities are popular destinations for cyclists. Cyclists have the right to use any of the area's public roadways, and just like vehicles, bicyclists must obey all traffic laws, and must stay to the right side of the road. Cyclists should remain in bike lanes when available and ride single file. Vehicle drivers should pay attention to cyclist signals for turning and give ample room to cyclists using the regular roadways.

HIGH VOLUME/TOURISM AREAS

According to some estimates, approximately 20% of vehicle collisions happen in parking lots, and upwards of 30% of time behind the wheel is spent searching and waiting for parking. If you've ever tried to find a parking spot at the beach on a hot day, you're probably not surprised! Navigating parking and traffic surrounding popular destinations, such as campsites, the zoo, or beaches, and during big events, like the Oregon Int'l Air Show, requires patience and alertness. Always follow posted signs for speed and parking, obey timed parking rules, and take special care around motorcycles or large vehicles, such as RVs.



For more information about sharing the road, visit Washington County online at: http://www.co.washington.or.us/LUT/TrafficSafety

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New Faces on the FGPD Force

To become an officer with the FGPD, the journey from submitting an application to hitting the road for solo patrol can take over a year to complete, and includes a thorough interview and screening process (among hundreds of applicants), 16 weeks at the police academy, and fitness and psychological assessments, and then another several weeks training with other FGPD officers.

The FGPD is pleased to welcome several new members to the force:

Officer Pat Hess started with the department in January after retiring from the Hillsboro Police Department. Officer Hess is no stranger to Forest Grove; in fact he once worked at the department many years ago and now calls Forest Grove home. Officer Jose Aburto just finished the police academy and started the department's training program along with Officer Hector Aguilar and Officer Matthew Krump. Officer Krump was previously a reserve officer with our agency. Officer Austin Adams and Officer Waael Jared are also at the police academy for their 16 week training course before returning to start their department training. Both Adams and Jared were also previously reserve officers with FGPD. Finally, Code En-



forcement Officer Shannon Humphrey has also joined the department and is now working to make our city a nicer place to live in working on graffiti abatement, abandoned vehicles and other city code violations.

Please welcome these new employees with the Forest Grove Police!

Reserve Program Offers Police Support

Do you know someone that might be interested in becoming a reserve police officer with Forest Grove Police? Reserve officers perform vital support roles in our department in helping to provide services during community events and special projects requiring additional manpower when full time officers are not available. These men and woman serve our community while gaining free law enforcement training and experience. Some serve while working other full time jobs and have no intention to join the full time ranks. Others set their goal of becoming a full time officer and then stand a better chance in the hiring process when full time openings occur. In fact, in the last few years we have hired 6 of our full time positions from our reserve ranks!

For more information about the reserve officer program, please call Sergeant Scott King or Officer Steven Teets at 503.992.3260.



Officer Waael Jared recently transitioned from reserve officer to full time officer.

A Word from the Chief: Service



When talking with new officers I find my inner mission, as their chief, is to instill early in their careers the concept of Service. From the time that the badge is pinned on and the oath is taken, officers must be educated that from that day forward, they will be in the public eye, subject to constant Monday morning quarterbacking; every action that they take or don't take, will be subject to intense scrutiny. It is just a fact of life of what police work entails.

Law enforcement is a service profession. What officers do will have lifelong consequences to the citizens they deal with and through their actions, we as officers can never allow a victim to be victimized a second time due to poor police practices. Service is all about, what I call, "full-force policing". Officers do all that we can from the lowest of requests such as a barking dog to the very worst situations that one can imagine.

The true rewards of this job have little to do with what we receive in the service we provide, and everything to do with what we are able to give. Everybody's Somebody in this world and every single day officers have the ability to protect the weak and vulnerable, and we do. Every single day we have the chance to fight crime and foster hope, and we do. Every single day we will be called upon to be courageous, and we must.

Society has vested in law enforcement a great responsibility and we cannot be impressed by our authority, but rather we need to be humbled by it... for it is much larger than any of us. Service in law enforcement provides a unique opportunity because we can dramatically change someone's life for the better by taking the time to care and to truly protect and serve.

Interact with Your Forest Grove Police

Through events like Coffee with a Cop, the National Night Out, Public Safety Open House, and Citizen's Academy, the Forest Grove Police are glad to open our doors to the community to learn more about the department and the officers who serve them. We invite you to come say hello at the following upcoming activities:

First Wednesday: July 6th, August 3rd, September 7, October 5 Coffee with a Cop: July 6, 8-10 a.m., Coffee House in the Grove National Night Out: August 2nd, 4-8 p.m., Pacific University

UnCorked: August 20th, 4-9 p.m. Main Street



HERE TO SERVE:

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A place where businesses and families thrive.

www.forestgrove-or.gov City Hall: 503-992-3200

CONNECT!



